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Graduate Recital: Ni Zhang, piano

Ni Zhang

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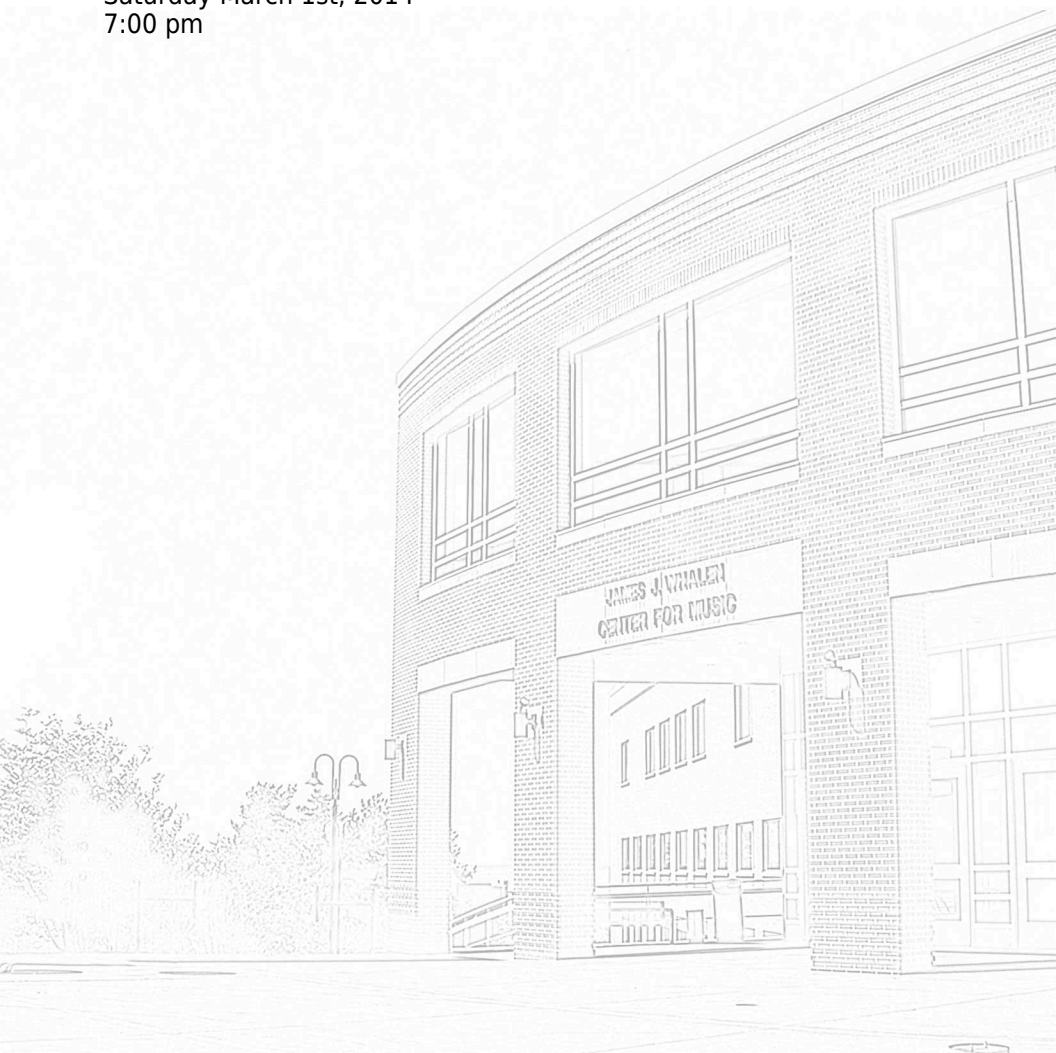
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Graduate Recital:

Ni Zhang, piano

Hockett Family Recital Hall
Saturday March 1st, 2014
7:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

Program

French Suite No. 5 in G Major, BWV 816 (1723)

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

- I. Allemande
- II. Courante
- III. Sarabande
- IV. Gavotte
- V. Bourrée
- VI. Loure
- VII. Gigue

Phantasien, Op. 116 (1892)

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

- I. Capriccio in d minor
- II. Intermezzo in a minor
- III. Capriccio in g minor
- IV. Intermezzo in E Major
- V. Intermezzo in e minor
- VI. Intermezzo in E Major
- VII. Capriccio in d minor

Intermission

Rondo in a minor, K. 511 (1787)

W. A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

Kinderszenen, Op. 15 (1838)

Robert Schumann
(1810-1856)

- I. Von fremden Ländern und Menschen
- II. Kuriose Geschichte
- III. Hasche-Mann
- IV. Bittendes Kind
- V. Glückes genug
- VI. Wichtige Begebenheit
- VII. Träumerei
- VIII. Am Kamin
- IX. Ritter vom Steckenpferd
- X. Fast zu ernst
- XI. Fürchtenmachen
- XII. Kind im Einschlummern
- XIII. Der Dichter spricht

Fantaisie in b minor, Op. 28 (1900)

Alexander Scriabin
(1872-1915)

Program Notes

French Suite No. 5 in G Major, BWV 816

This French Suites was written from 1722-1723 for clavichord, and dedicated to Bach's second wife Anna Magdalena. Bach didn't name these pieces by himself. The reason for having such a name is probably that the suites were known for their elegant and gentle style, which was similar to the French mood. The No.5 is in G major with 7 movements. Each of them sounds bright, delicate, and graceful.

Phantasien, Op. 116

This *Phantasien* was written in Brahms's old age, when he had already finished writing large ensemble music. He wrote 20 great pieces for piano in these several years before he died, and Op.116 is one of them. They were written in his most mature years, which were full of loneliness. There are 7 movements in this piece, which are:

1. Capriccio in d minor, presto energize. It represents the pain in his heart throughout his life time; 2. Intermezzo in a minor, andante, and a little mysterious and restless throughout the whole movement; 3. Capriccio in g minor, allegro passionate. It's passionate, but in the middle it feels solemn and grave, also a feel of helplessness; 4. Intermezzo in E major, adagio. This piece is the memories from his childhood, and it uses the style of the Nocturne, soft and slow; 5. Intermezzo in e minor, andante eon grazier ed intimissimo sentiment. It's full of lightness and sorrow; 6. Intermezzo in E major, andantino teneramente. It's deep and emotional, with the memories of youth; 7. Capriccio in d minor, allegro agitato. It's in a hurry anxiety.

Rondo in a minor, K. 511

Mozart had written 3 rondos for piano solo. Rondo K. 511 was written in 1787, right after his friend's death. The piece has some similarities to a funeral. The sorrow in this piece is rarely showed in other pieces of his piano works.

Kinderszenen, Op.15

Kinderszenen was written in 1838. It doesn't describe the life of children directly, but from the sight of an adult's recall instead. Schumann portrayed children's spirit concisely and accurately, as if there is really something going on among children. There are 13 movements in this piece, which are:

1. Von fremden Lendern und Menschen. It presents children's curious faces while they are listening to the exotic stories; 2. Kuriose Geschichte. The changeful rhythm makes the piece interesting, as if the children are impressed by the weird stories; 3. Hasche-Mann. The stable 16th notes shows the children are running and hiding everywhere; 4. Bittendes Kind. The music goes as if the children are begging their parents for something they desire; 5. Glückes genug. It shows the satisfied feelings of children when they obtain something they want; 6. Wichtige Begebenheit. It presents the faces and spirits of children while they are trying to show that they are serious. It's cute and funny; 7. Traumerei. This is the most beautiful and famous one in these 13 pieces. It's like a dream when you play it or listen to it; 8. Am Kamin. It shows the image that the child is having fun with his family around the fire; 9. Ritter vom Steckenpferd. The syncopation makes you feel there are children riding on their wood horses; 10. Fast zu ernst. It describes the faces of children while they are thinking seriously; 11. Fürchtenmachen. It shows that children are curious and scared while they listen to horrifying stories; 12. Kind im Einschlummern. It is a lullaby. The swing rhythm and canon make it sound peaceful and calm; 13. Der Dichter spricht. It imitates the tone of a poet, showing the composer's sorrow of the passing childhood.

Fantaisie in b minor, Op. 28

This is a romantic music poem. It's grand and passionate. It was written in 1900, while Scriabin was teaching in Moscow Conservatory. This is the only work that he composed in that period, which indicated the end of his early period composing, and the beginning of his middle period composing.